AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the

application:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method <u>for maintaining a hierarchical network of superior</u>
<u>and inferior computers</u> comprising:

<u>querying a first inferior computer, by a superior computer, to locate a</u>
<u>second inferior computer in the network in which to install a first</u>
<u>application and to execute the first application;</u>

requesting <u>the second inferior</u> [[a]] computer<u>, by the superior computer,</u> ~~in~~
~~a network~~ to install [[a]] <u>the</u> first application and execute the first
application;

transferring one or more files to the <u>second inferior</u> computer;

~~making modifications to~~ <u>modifying</u> the <u>second inferior</u> computer to install
and execute the first application on the <u>second inferior</u> computer
~~while~~ <u>and</u> recording the modifications, <u>wherein modifying comprises</u>
~~the modifications comprising~~ allocating a resource to the first
application;

halting the first application on the <u>second inferior</u> computer;

reversing a portion of the modifications to the <u>second inferior</u> computer
according to the recorded modifications, <u>wherein</u> reversing
comprises deallocating the resource from the first application; and

~~making modifications to~~ <u>re-modifying</u> the <u>second inferior</u> computer to
install and execute a second application on the ~~available~~ <u>second</u>
<u>inferior</u> computer ~~while~~ <u>and</u> recording the ~~modifications~~ <u>re-</u>
<u>modifications, wherein the re-modifying comprises</u> ~~the modifications~~
~~comprise~~ allocating the resource to the second application.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the <u>modifying and re-modifying comprises</u> ~~modifications comprise~~ <u>at least one of</u> setting a communications port or saving the one or more files to a data storage device accessible to the <u>second inferior</u> computer.

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1<u>,</u>

wherein<u>:</u>

the first application has a type<u>;</u>

<u>the second application has a type;</u> and

[[if]] at least one other application running on the <u>second inferior</u> computer has a type<u>; and</u>

<u>the method further comprises:</u>

<u>comparing the second application type to the first application type and to the at least one other application type; and</u>

<u>if the second application has the same type as either the first application or the at least one other application, reversing a portion of the modifications and allocating the resource without re-modifying the second inferior computer to install and execute the second application</u> ~~that is identical to the second application's type, the portion does not comprise modifications required to install and execute applications having the type~~.

4.   (Currently Amended) A network comprising:

> a first computer configured to execute a first application manager that manages a first application; and

> a second computer configured to execute a service, wherein the service, upon request from the first application manager, installs and executes a first application by making modifications to the second computer to install and execute the first application on the second computer while recording the modifications, wherein the modifications comprise allocating a resource to the first application manager.

5.   (Currently Amended) The network of claim 4 wherein the service, upon request from the first application manager, is configured to ~~execute the following~~:

> ~~halts~~ halt the first application on the second computer;

> ~~reverses~~ reverse a portion of the modifications to the second computer according to the recorded modifications, wherein the reversing comprises deallocating the resource from the first application manager; and

> ~~makes modifications~~ make re-modifications to the second computer to install and execute a second application on the second computer while recording the ~~modifications~~ re-modifications, wherein the ~~modifications~~ re-modifications comprise allocating the resource to a second application manager.

6.   (Currently Amended) The network of claim 5 wherein the modifications and re-modifications comprise at least one of setting a communications port or saving the one or more files to a data storage device accessible to the second computer.

7.   (Currently Amended) The network of claim 5,

     wherein: ·

         the first application has a type;

         the second application has a type; and

         [[if]] at least one other application running on the second
            computer has a type; and

     the network is further configured to:

         compare the second application type to the first application
            type and to the at least one other application type;
            and

         if the second application has the same type as either the first
            application or the at least one other application,
            reverse a portion of the modifications and allocating
            the resource without re-modifying the second
            computer to install and execute the second
            application ~~that is identical to the second application's
            type, the portion does not comprise modifications
            required to install and execute applications having the
            type.~~